

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

16 NOVEMBER 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Cuba

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c. Yesterday's photography showed no change in the numbers of aircraft and crates at either San Julian or Holguin. At San Julian, however, canvas coverings and camouflage netting are hampering our ability to monitor the assembly of aircraft there.

d. Yesterday's photography also indicates that missile-related equipment previously observed near Mayari Arriba in an inland, mountainous area of Oriente Province is similar to equipment at the Banes cruise-missile site.

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2. Cuba-USSR

a. No definite word has come in yet on Mikoyan's departure. However, it looks as though a big dinner party given by the Soviet ambassador last night that was attended by practically all the regime's top brass may have been the social windup of his visit.

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Moscow may be temporarily suspending plans for developing a submarine base in Cuba.

3. India-
China

a. Heavy patrol engagements in the northeast, initiated by Indian probing actions on Wednesday, continue. A late press report states that the Chinese Communists launched a heavy counterattack this morning.

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e. The Indians yesterday proffered, and then withdrew for reconsideration, a request for about one billion dollars worth of US equipment for their air force.

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f. Chinese Communist diplomats continue to depart New Delhi; twenty-three left on Wednesday, including Peiping's military attaché. There are also indications (such as bonfires of documents) that the Chinese missions in Bombay and Calcutta are about to close shop.

g. India is pulling its consular people out of Shanghai and Lhasa, and personnel at its Peiping embassy are due to be "thinned out."

4. Laos

a. The neutralist headquarters in the Plaine des Jarres reported yesterday that "fighting" had broken out between its forces and the Pathet Lao. We have no idea what this means, but expect that the dispute will be, in Lao fashion, papered over.

b. If not, Souvanna will have another reason for resigning. He has still not seen Souphannouvong.

c. On the other side, Phoumi says he is urging his people to back Souvanna.

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5. ☐ Yemen

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d. As of Wednesday, Jordanian Prime Minister Tal was insisting there would be no retreat on his Yemen policies. He seemed to be carrying Husayn with him.

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6. USSR

a. There are many indications that Khrushchev will come up with yet another organizational gimmick to solve all the USSR's economic problems when his Central Committee meets Monday.

b. The last major reorganization of industry, in 1957, abolished the centralized functional industrial ministries and transferred management to about 100 regional organizations which coincided with political boundaries. This produced more problems than it solved. (It did, however, undermine the political foundations of the "anti-party group" which fell a few weeks later.)

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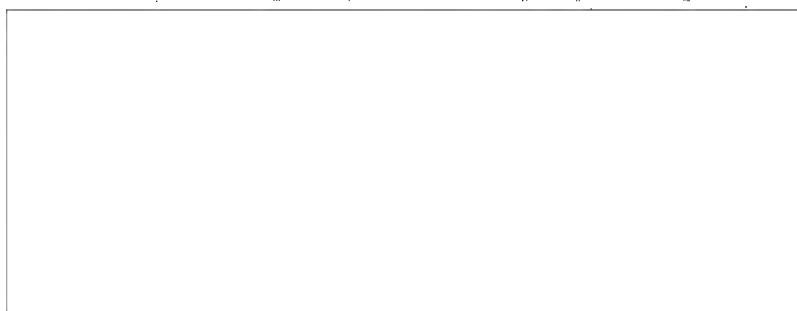
c. This time, Khrushchev apparently intends to redistrict the USSR into fourteen administrative areas based primarily on economic considerations--natural resources, population density, state of development, etc. In the absence of adequate price criteria on which to base management decisions, this scheme is not likely to work better than earlier ones.

d. The deeply entrenched regional party and administrative officials are disturbed and divided. They are probably also worried over the significance for them of Khrushchev's renewed pursuit of the "remnants of Stalinism."

7. West Germany

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NOTES

- A. USSR We have seen evidence that the Soviets have recently commissioned two, perhaps three, new nuclear submarines [redacted]. Of the 22 or 23 now on hand, six are assigned to the Pacific Fleet, the rest to the Northern Fleet. [redacted]
- B. USSR-Algeria [redacted] Defense Minister Boumedienne, presumably pleased with the Soviet aircraft (MIG-15s and helicopters) he got from the Egyptians recently, will soon be off shopping for more bloc military hardware.
- C. Communist China Nineteen of Peiping's ambassadors have now returned home. We note that the only ones left in eastern Europe are those assigned to Bulgaria (probably because of the party congress there) and to Albania.
- D. Pakistan The Pakistanis are leaking to the press a story that the Communist bloc is now tempting them with offers of substantial economic aid without the usual quid pro quo that Pakistan withdrew from SEATO and CENTO. Our Moscow embassy has been asked to see if there is anything to it.

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